WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Jessica Steen

Jessica Steen (born December 19, 1965) is a Canadian actress in both film and television, who may be best known for her recurring role as Lisa Stillman, on the CBC primetime drama series *Heartland* (2007–present).

Personal life

Jessica Steen was born in Toronto, Ontario, the daughter of Joanna Noyes, an actress, and Jan Steen, a director and actor.[1] She is of Dutch and Scottish ancestry.

Steen is an environmentalist and animal rights supporter. She supports David Suzuki, the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the Western Canadian Wilderness Committee, among others. She is a certified diver, and is skilled at several circus arts – including stilt-walking, and fire-twirling.

Career

In 1987, Steen was in the main cast of the syndicated series *Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future*, which lasted one year. For her performance in the *Captain Power* episode, "Judgment", she was nominated for the Gemini Award in the "Best Performance by a Lead Actress in a Continuing Dramatic Role" category in 1988. In 1987, she played Tracy Steelgrave on *Wiseguy*.

Jessica Steen

Steen at The Heart Truth celebrity fashion show in 2012

Born	December 19, 1965 Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Occupation	Actress
Years active	1981–present

While based in Toronto, Steen appeared on Canadian series and in American made-for-TV movies. In 1991, shortly after relocating to New York, she was cast on the soap opera *Loving*. She was in the main cast for the two season run of the series *Homefront*.

In 1994, she was cast as Dr. Julia Heller, a genetically enhanced doctor, in the science fiction series *Earth 2*. The show was canceled in 1995, after which Steen appeared in single episodes of various series, including *The Outer Limits*, *ER*, *Murder One*, *Due South* and *Touched by an Angel*. In 1994, she won the "Best Actress" Gemini Award, for her portrayal of Nora in the TV movie, *Small Gifts*.

Steen at the *Armageddon* premiere, 1998

In 1997, she was cast as District Attorney Elizabeth Gardner in the movie *Trial & Error*. Her performance earned a positive review from Roger Ebert on his syndicated show, *Siskel & Ebert*.

Producer Jerry Bruckheimer recommended her for the role of the shuttle pilot in 1998's *Armageddon* because he remembered her portrayal of Cpl. Jennifer 'Pilot' Chase in *Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future.*

Since 1998 Steen has been personally and professional contacted to the Burning Man festival, organizing community tents and experiences.[2]

In 2004 Steen played Dr. Elizabeth Weir in "Lost City", the two-part finale of season 7 of *Stargate SG-1*.[2] Steen had been informed that Weir was going to be a recurring character, with the character being a major role in the spinoff *Stargate Atlantis*, and to not take any work that would conflict with a weekly cable TV schedule.[2]

Reflecting on her time on *Stargate* Steen also said that “I think I actually drove the writers/producers bananas — to a not good degree,” stating she was a stickler for details and would have did a bunch of background research and started asking hyper-specific and technical questions that producers didn't know the answer to.[2] This was combined with Steen deciding not to watch any prior episodes of *Stargate* or the movie, to be a more realistic "fish out of water."[2] During her time during *Lost City* Steen also was actively involved in planning and packing for Burning Man which she considered "my family" saying she "missed weddings, [baby] showers, bar mitzvahs, everything" for Burning Man, comparing it to her personal Mecca.[2]

At the time Burning Man still had a stigma so her agent told her to tell the producers of *Stargate* that she had a family reunion she couldn't miss, which was technically correct, but she was skipping the reunion to go to Burning Man.[2] After a few months she was told that she had been released from her contract to play Weir, with her agent saying "They felt [that] you were more committed to naked drugging in the desert than you would be committed to doing the show the way they needed you to."[2] News of this being the reason wouldn't break until Steen opened up about it in 2021, as such, *Stargate* fans speculated elaborately about the cause, with the most popular theory being that she didn't want to move to Vancouver where *Stargate* was filmed, which she personally dismissed saying she actually has family near Vancouver and a move would've been convenient.[2] Weir would be recast to be played by Torri Higginson, as the same character Steen played.[2]

She played lead roles in *Slap Shot 2: Breaking the Ice* and the Disney TV movies *Smart House* and *Principal Takes a Holiday*.

She played Myra Teal in "Mr. Monk and the Billionaire Mugger", a 2002 episode of *Monk*. She played a recurring character on the CBS crime drama *NCIS*, that of Special Agent Paula Cassidy, from 2004 to 2007.[3] In the fall of 2007 she appeared in a multi-episode role on the Canadian series, *jPod*. That same year, she appeared in the third episode of a new Canadian series, *Heartland*;[4] as of 2024, the 18th season of the series *Heartland*, Steen continues to appear in the recurring role of Lisa Stillman.

Between 2009 and 2012, Steen had a recurring role as Strategic Response Unit Constable Donna Sabine, on the police drama *Flashpoint*. In 2010, she was nominated for a Gemini Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Series, for her appearances in *Clean Hands* and *The Perfect Family*. She was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award in the category of Best Performance in a Guest Role, Dramatic Series for Flashpoint episode *A New Life* in 2013.

Between 2018 and 2020, Steen made several appearances in various Hallmark and Lifetime made-for-TV movies: *A Midnight Kiss, Matching Hearts, Chateau Christmas, The Babysitter aka The Baby Monitor Murders*, and *Stolen by My Mother: The Kamiyah Mobley Story.*

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1981	*Threshold*	Tracy Vrain	
1983	*Gentle Sinners*	Donna	
1986	*A Judgment in Stone*	Melinda Coverdale	
1986	*Flying*	Carly Simmons	
1987	*John and the Missus*	Faith	
1989	*Sing*	Hannah Gottschalk	
1990	*Still Life: The Fine Art of Murder*	Nellie Ambrose	
1996	*Dog Watch*	Janet	Video
1997	*Trial and Error*	Elizabeth Gardner	
1998	*Armageddon*	Co-Pilot Jennifer Watts	
1999	*Question of Privilege*	Andrea Roberts	
2000	*The Ride Home*	Clara	Short film
2001	*Apocalypse IV: Judgment*	Victoria Thorne	
2002	*Slap Shot 2: Breaking the Ice*	Jessie Dage	Video
2003	*Flip Phone*	Sue	Short film
2005	*Chaos*	Karen Cross	
2005	*Left Behind: World at War*	Carolyn Miller	
2008	*Transit Lounge*	Roberta	Short film
2013	*The Sound of Willie Nelson's Guitar*	Karen	Short Film

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1983	*Hangin' In*	Darcy	Episode: "I've Got a Secret"
1983	*SCTV Channel*	College Student	Episode: "It's a Wonderful Film"
1984	*When We First Met*	Gail Pennoyer	TV movie
1984	*The Edison Twins*	Elaine	Episode: "Enemy of Weston"
1985	*Workin' for Peanuts*	Mellisa Stotts	TV movie
1985	*Home Free*	Daughter	TV movie
1985	*The Littlest Hobo*	Leslie 'Torque' Davidson	Episode: "Torgue"
1985	*Striker's Mountain*	Lowni Striker	TV movie
1985	*Night Heat*	Michelle Parker	Episode: "The Source"
1986	*Night Heat*	Angela Rivera	Episode: "Fighting Back"
1986	*Kay O'Brien*	Lindsay	Episode: "Little White Lies"
1986	*The Truth About Alex*	Kay	TV movie
1986	*The Edison Twins*	Elaine	Episode: "What Goes Up"
1986	*The Campbells*	Amanda Sims	Episode: "Blinded by Love"
1986	*Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color*	Tracy Gordon	Episode: "Young Again"
1986	*Easy Prey*	Wendy Robinson	TV movie
1987	*CBS Schoolbreak Special*	Kate	Episode: "The Day They Came to Arrest the Book"
1987	*Alfred Hitchcock Presents*	Sally Carlyle	Episode: "Man on the Edge"
1987	*Wiseguy*	Tracy Steelgrave	Episode: "Pilot"
1987–1988	*Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future*	Corporal Jennifer 'Pilot' Chase	22 episodes
1989	*C.B.C.'s Magic Hour*	Jennifer McPhail	Episode: "High Country"
1989	*The Rocket Boy*	The Rocket Boy's Girlfriend	TV movie
1990	*Christmas in America*	Eileen Morgan	TV movie
1990	*Knights of the Kitchen Table*	Marla McDermott	TV movie
1990	*Street Legal*	Karen MacNeil	Episode: "Softsell"
1991	*The Great Pretender*	Kate Hightower	TV movie
1991	*Tropical Heat*	Patricia Poston Phd.	Episode: "Dead Men Tell"
1991	*Loving*	Patricia 'Trisha' Alden Sowolsky Hartman McKenzie	5 episodes
1991–1993	*Homefront*	Linda Metcalf	42 episodes
1993	*Herman's Head*	Heather	Episode: "When Hairy Met Hermy"
1994	*Small Gifts*	Nora	TV movie

1994	*To Save the Children*	Kathi Davidson	TV movie
1994–1995	*Earth 2*	Dr. Julia Heller	21 episodes
1996	*ER*	Karen Hardy	Episode: "True Lies"
1996	*The Outer Limits*	Gina Beaumont	Episode: "The Refuge"
1997	*Murder One*	Paige Weikopf	4 episodes
1997	*Touched by an Angel*	Sarah Bingham	Episode: "Full Moon"
1998	*Principal Takes a Holiday*	Celia Shine	TV movie
1999	*The Pretender*	Rachel	Episode: "The Assassin"
1999	*Due South*	Constable Maggie MacKenzie	Episode: "Hunting Season"
1999	*Smart House*	Sara Barnes	TV movie
1999	*The Practice*	Brianna Hatfield	Episode: "Marooned"
1999	*The Outer Limits*	Stephanie Sawyer	Episode: "Essence of Life"
2000	*On Hostile Ground*	Allison Beauchamp	TV movie
2000	*The Outer Limits*	Kathrine	Episode: "The Grid"
2001	*The Practice*	Dr. Sarah Ford	Episode: "Inter Arma Silent Leges"
2002	*Society's Child*	Terry Best	TV movie
2002	*Untitled Secret Service Project*	Maureen Gage	TV movie
2002	*Monk*	Myra Teal	Episode: "Mr. Monk and the Billionaire Mugger"
2002	*The Pact*	Det. Anne-Marie Marrone	TV movie
2003	*The Paradise Virus*	Susan Holme	TV movie
2003	*L.A. Dragnet*	Amy Wenzel	Episode: "The Cutting of the Swath"
2003	*Mutant X*	Dr. Sara Stanton	Episode: "The Taking of Crows"
2003–2007, 2015	*NCIS*	NCIS Special Agent Paula Cassidy	6 episodes
2004	*Stargate SG-1*	*Dr. Elizabeth Weir*	Episode: "Lost City: Part 1" Episode: "Lost City: Part 2"
2004	*Nip/Tuck*	Amy Connors	Episode: "Kimber Henry"
2005	*Charmed*	Ruth Brody	Episode: "Ordinary Witches"
2005	*Kojak*	Kate	Episode: "Pilot"
2005	*Eyes*	Holly Gibson	Episode: "Shots"
2005	*Killer Instinct*	Dr. Francine Klepp	7 episodes
2006	*Supernatural*	Deputy Kathleen Hudak	Episode: "The Benders"
2006	*CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*	Donna Basset	Episode: "Toe Tags"
2006	*Rapid Fire*	Linda	TV movie

2007–present	*Heartland*	Lisa Stillman	91 episodes
2008	*Canooks*	Katherine 'Kat' Baines	Web Series/Those Damn Canadians
2008	*jPod*	Freedom	3 episodes
2008	*Vipers*	Dr. Collins	TV movie
2009	*My Nanny's Secret*	Julia	TV movie
2009–2012	*Flashpoint*	Donna Sabine	11 episodes
2012	*Republic of Doyle*	Sonja Sterling	3 episodes
2012	*Bullet in the Face*	Eva Braden	6 episodes
2018	*Grey's Anatomy*	Dr. Rebecca Froy	Episode: "Beautiful Dreamer"
2018	*A Midnight Kiss*	Barbara Pearson	Hallmark Movie
2019	*Charmed*	Elder Devorah Silver	2 Episodes
2020	*Stolen by My Mother: The Kamiyah Mobley Story*	Judge Marianne Aho	Lifetime TV Movie
2020	*The Babysitter aka The Baby Monitor Murders*	Jennifer	Lifetime TV Movie
2020	*Matching Hearts*	Barbara	Hallmark TV Movie
2020	*Sacred Lies*	Arwen Reed	Episode: "Chapter Nine: Bloodlines"
2020	*Chateau Christmas*	Renee	Hallmark TV Movie
2021	*Maid*	Doreen	2 episodes
2024	*Mayor of Kingstown*	Sarah	Recurring cast

References

1. "Jessica Steen" (https://www.chicagotribune.com/1993/04/04/jessica-steen/). *Chicago Tribune*. April 4, 1993. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20240726164742/https://www.chicagotribune.com/1993/04/04/jessica-steen/) from the original on 2024-07-26. Retrieved July 24, 2024.
2. Sumner, Darren. "Jessica Steen Finally Reveals Why Stargate Recast Dr. Weir" (https://www.gateworld.net/news/2021/06/jessica-steen-finally-reveals-why-stargate-recast-dr-weir/). *Gateworld*. Retrieved 2 May 2025.
3. Ngo, Sheiresa (October 11, 2020). " 'NCIS': Jessica Steen Tells Us What It Was Like to Work With Michael Weatherly" (https://www.cheatsheet.com/entertainment/ncis-jessica-steen-tells-us-what-it-was-like-to-work-with-michael-weatherly.html/). *cheatsheet.com*. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20201025022736/https://www.cheatsheet.com/entertainment/ncis-jessica-steen-tells-us-what-it-was-like-to-work-with-michael-weatherly.html/) from the original on 2020-10-25. Retrieved July 24, 2024.
4. "Meet The Cast Of Heartland" (https://www.cowgirlmagazine.com/meet-the-cast-of-heartland/). *cowgirlmagazine.com*. May 27, 2021. Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20240301114621/https://www.cowgirlmagazine.com/meet-the-cast-of-heartland/) from the original on 2024-03-01. Retrieved July 24, 2024.

External links

- Official website (http://www.jessicasteen.com)
- Jessica Steen (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0824763/) at IMDb

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Jessica_Steen&oldid=1302097360"